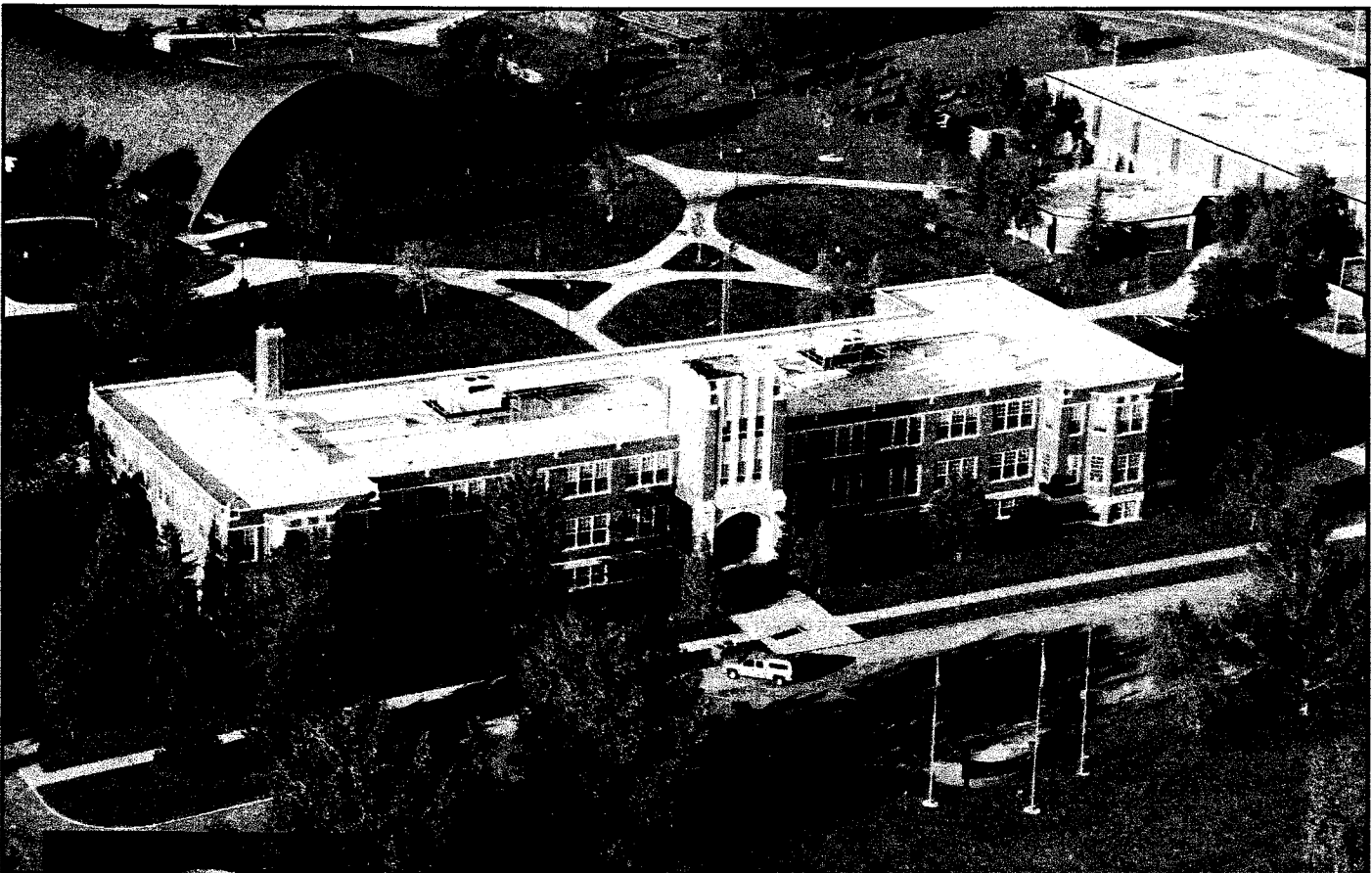




MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN

Action Plans



I am convinced that MSU-Northern's future exists in our ability to meet the ongoing needs of our region and to offer unique programs which will attract students from outside our service area. First and foremost we have a responsibility to the citizens of our region to produce students who will have the skills necessary to meet the workforce requirements of this region. Our continuing challenge will be to bring our programs, our budget and our student population into balance. We do our best to get jobs in Montana.

Please take some time to review this document. It is my desire to help everyone understand where Northern is going and how we plan to get there.

Dr. Rolf Groseth
Interim Chancellor, MSU-Northern

Goal 1

Meet the educational needs of North-Central Montana while offering excellent customer service



Objective A

Evaluate all academic programs and related areas for strengths and weaknesses, fiscal viability and take subsequent action.

Objective B

Provide students with a 2 and 4-year course schedule by March of each year.

Objective C

Increase efficiency and ease for students to transfer to and from Northern.

Objective D

Serve students and colleagues with a friendly demeanor, in a responsive and timely fashion, with accurate information.

Objective E

Forge strong linkages between Northern, MSU-Great Falls College of Technology and the four Tribal Colleges located along the Hi-Line.

Goal 2

Establish a balanced budget in accordance with enrollment



Objective A

Establish an open budget process to produce a balanced budget.

Objective B

Allocate resources for maximum impact on teaching and learning.

Objective C

Monitor revenues and expenditures to ensure positive stewardship of resources.

Goal 3

Increase our marketing and recruiting efforts to stabilize and grow our enrollment



Objective A

Develop and fund an aggressive market strategy to improve awareness, interest and enrollment at MSUN.

Objective B

Increase enrollment by 3% for fall 2009 semester.

Objective C

Increase the number of students returning to Northern between the spring and fall semesters.

Objective D

Insure the effectiveness of our partnership with Hi-Line Tribal Colleges and MSU-Great Falls College of Technology.

Accomplishments

• **Accreditation** – This year Northern hosted visits from several accreditation organizations. Our accreditation was reaffirmed from the Northwest Commission on Colleges (NWCCU), Technology Accreditation Council of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (TAC/ABET) and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

• **Lewistown Grand Opening** - In late 2007 we had the grand opening of Northern's new Lewistown campus. This facility was made possible because of our partnership with the Central Montana Education Center. Northern was conveyed the old BLM building two years ago and the community of Lewistown raised close to a million dollars to renovate the facility.

• **New Biodiesel Certification Lab** opened in March of 2008. This lab assists in testing and certifying biodiesel fuels for private industry as well as training students in how to make and test biodiesel fuels. This lab was made possible by several grants and private contributions including a state of the art Oil Lab donated by Peter Kiewit Co. and the state WIRED grant.

• **Student Recreation Facilities Remodeled** - The Northern Student Senate renovated the basement of the SUB for a Student Lounge and Recreation Area. They reopened the old bowling alley and bought new pool and foosball tables.

• **New Mascots** - The MSU-Northern Student Senate chose two Polar Bears for Northern's mascots, their names are Aurora and Boris.

• **New Markets** – Northern is working closely to develop articulation agreements with Medicine Hat College. One of the options we are considering is on-line hybrid courses delivered in Medicine Hat.

• **Alternate Energies** - The Electrical Technology Program at MSU-Northern received a grant from Northwestern Energy to purchase and install a solar panel. The panel will be set up so students can learn to monitor how much electricity is being generated.

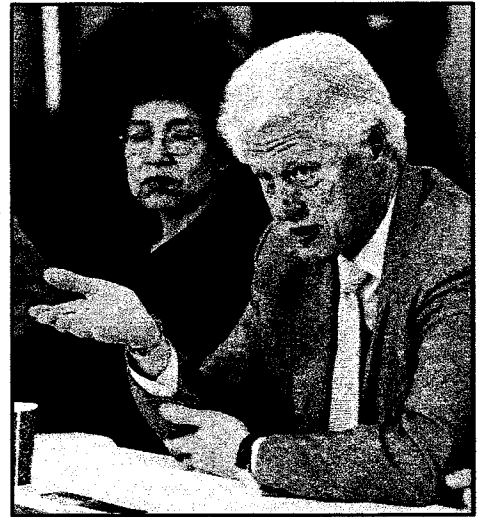
• **Pow Wow** – Northern's Sweetgrass Society hosted the 32nd annual Pow Wow on April 25-26th. Dancers, drummers and artists from across the state attended and competed.

• **SkillsUSA State Conference** - 380 students from 34 high schools attended last year's SkillsUSA competition which is held every year on the Northern campus. Students competed in several skill areas including welding, carpentry, drafting, small engines, job interviewing and many more.

• **Graphic Arts Student Wins Addy** - Lindsey Krause won a Silver Addy Award at the state and district levels which includes Idaho, Washington, Montana, Oregon and Alaska.

• **National Champion** - Cory Borges became MSU-Northern's 28th individual National Champion at the 51st NAIA National wrestling championships.

• **MSU-Northern Founders' Excellence Awards** were presented to Tony Preite and Greg Jergeson during Northern's annual Founder's Excellence Awards Banquet.



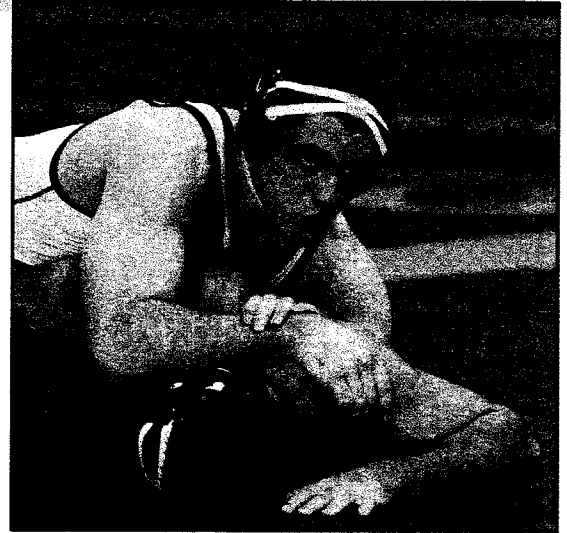
Former President Bill Clinton visited MSU-Northern on April 1st to help generate support for Senator Hillary Clinton's presidential bid in the June primaries. During his visit at MSU-Northern, Clinton met with local Tribal Leaders to discuss issues of concern to Native Americans in Montana. Among those in attendance were Julia Doney, President of the Fort Belknap Tribal Council (left). Clinton then addressed a crowd of over 2200 in Northern's Armory Gym.



Governor Brian Schweitzer was on hand for the open house of Northern's new Biodiesel Certification Lab. Also present for this exciting event were Tony Preite from the Montana Department of Commerce, Allen Rider from the 25x25 National Steering Committee, Tom Lever, Assistant Director of Montana DEQ, and Lyle Nichols, Senior Vice President for Pacific Kiewit Co.

Competitive Distinctions

- Small class size with a satisfying faculty to student ratio.
- Located to provide access to an affordable college education in rural Montana.
- Good mix of practical 2-year, 4-year and graduate programs designed to meet the needs of employers.
- Strong athletic program with a winning tradition and loyal fans.
- Excellent connections with industry places our graduates in high demand.
- Located close to the Canadian border.
- Residential campus.
- Good working relationship with the local Tribal Colleges.



Mission Statement

A comprehensive regional university, Montana State University–Northern offers programs of professional preparation emphasizing discipline mastery, critical inquiry, and social responsibility in:

- teacher preparation
- auto, diesel and engineering technologies
- business and computer information systems
- nursing
- General Education, arts and sciences

MSU-Northern applies emerging technologies in degree programs ranging from the associate to master's level. MSU-Northern prepares well-educated students who are capable of decisive action and application of new ideas. The university is committed to excellence in teaching, service to its region and the state, and applied research and scholarship.

Values Statement

MSU-Northern values individualized attention to its students, experientially-based learning, and creating a culturally rich and intellectually stimulating environment. Northern serves as a regional cultural center and values strong partnerships with communities, education, business and industry.



Vision Statement

Montana State University–Northern will provide practical two-year, four-year and graduate programs designed to prepare students for employment. It will deliver those programs with academic quality, excellent customer service and personal attention.